1: Honigmann E-5 (1943-1945) 1949 ND12 Nahane ND12

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TABLE 2. KASKA POPULATION

Tribe	1875	1887	1914	1917	1924	1928[8]	1929	1934	1944[12]
Dease Lake	105[6]	70[7]	70	70	64	150	64	137[10]	74
Upper Liard and Frances Lake			79	84	82	80	80	95	42[13]
Nelson River			89	106	123		141[9]	91[11]	59
Total			238	260	269		285	323	175

about 200.[14] Mooney estimated 500 for the aboriginal population of the total Kaska area.[15] Although it cannot be denied that Kaska population has suffered some decline since 1840, the magnitude of this seems exaggerated. We doubt that the aboriginal population exceeded 300.

About 50 per cent of the Kaska are adults over sixteen years of age (Table 3). Adult males slightly exceed adult females, the ratio being 1:.725. Among children, girls are more numerous than boys by a ratio of 1:1.175. During the period from June 1944 to July 1945 we noted eleven births which suggests a birth rate of at least 55 per 1000 population. Of these births five, or about 45 per cent, occurred in spring. Seven were female and four male. The

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TABLE 3. AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION—MARCH 31, 1944

Tribe	Men	Women	Children Under 16		Total
			Boys	Girls	
Dease River	20	14	16	24	74
Upper Liard	14	9	8	11	42
Nelson River	17	14	16	12	59
Total	51	37	40	47	175

[6] French and Ware, *British Columbia Posts; No. 7, McDame's Creek Post* (1923–24), 395.

[7] Dawson, *Report of an Exploration in the Yukon District* (1887–1888), 200. This reference, like the preceding, is to Indians trading at McDame Post and no tribal specifications are given.

[8] Allard, *Notes on the Kaska and Upper Liard Indians* (1928), 24. The author confesses that his estimate of 150 people trading at McDame Creek probably includes Sekani and Nelson Indians.

[9] The constantly rising population of the Nelson Indians seems to point to a confusion of Nelson and adjacent Sekani people like the Tsetsaut.

[10] This figure probably includes forty odd Indians classified as "Grahame Nomads" in earlier reports, and this term probably refers to the Tsetsaut.

[11] The reference is to "Nomadic McDame and Liard District."

[12] Canada, *Stikine Indian Agency Census* (1944).

[13] Includes only three Frances Lake Indians.

[14] This figure is based on the 175 people trading into Lower Post and listed in the government's census of 1944 plus an estimated thirty Frances Lake Indians for whom no census data could be obtained. The figure does not include the Espato-tena.

[15] Kroeber, *Cultural and Natural Areas of Native North America* (1939), 141.